

FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES
DEPARTMENT OF AGING
March 10, 2014

COA MEMBERS	DOA STAFF	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED	GUESTS
Elizabeth Chung	Sue Ramsburg	Randy McClement, Mayor	Irene Packer- Halsey	Rae Ann Butler
Ernell Graham	Pat Rosensteel	Carolyn True		Carol Krimm
David Gray, Comm		Dan Yeeles		Belinda Teague-Levy
Ann Holiday				
Louise Lynch				
Katie Rhinehart				
Virginia Skelley				

- I. **Call to Order** – Louise Lynch called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.
- II. **Welcome & Introductions** – Louise welcomed all attendees.
- III. **Action on the Agenda** – Louise would like an item added to the agenda. Carolyn Krimm will be here to talk about developing a task force which will address the identified issues from the Needs Assessment.
- IV. **Public Comment** – No public comment.
- V. **Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the February 10, 2014 meeting were approved with one revision. On page three, the fourth

sentence should read “Josh Bokee, the Chairperson”. All were in favor.

Commissioner’s Report – Commissioner Gray spoke about the extra \$250,000 funding proposal to be added to the budget for use towards the Senior Tax Credit. This credit provides qualifying individuals a discount on their property taxes. Kitty added that the Dept of Aging has been working with municipality leaders and will be holding local presentations.

There is a Planning Commission meeting tonight and there will be a presentation with a second request to approve the division of the properties surrounding Montevue Assisted Living and Citizens. The meeting will be held at 6pm.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Randy McClement was not able to attend today’s meeting.

VI. Mission Moment – Tracy Reeve, Maryland Relay– Tracy Reeve presented information regarding the Maryland Relay system. There is a very large deaf community in the Frederick area. The inability to communicate with other people can be very isolating and unsafe. Maryland Relay is a state agency which provides this free public service. All states are mandated by the federal government to provide this service. Tracy presented the various types of equipment provided by this service. There are many options which serve a large range of clients. They provide services to those who have hearing and/or speech impairments. There are no age limits for the service. The applicant must be a Maryland resident and have landline service. There are some income guidelines although each application is considered. The applicant will need to have a medical certification to qualify for the program. A service provider will provide an evaluation to see which type of equipment works best for their disability. Home visits are offered if necessary. Training and programming are also an option. There is no need to reapply for the service, however re-evaluation is suggested.

VII. Senior-related questions for Candidates – Louise Lynch – This is the task assigned at last month’s meeting where each member was asked to come up with some questions to ask the candidates at local forums. Katie had some prepared questions. There was a suggestion that questions be held until primaries are over and then present them to those who won primary elections. Commissioner Gray stated that waiting until the primaries are over will be a loss because there are so many good candidates running at this point. Belinda suggested that members watch the BoCC meetings to see

what issues are already being discussed. Louise reminded everyone of the need to form questions for next month's meeting.

Carol Krimm offered that the TSAC will be doing an education forum. The candidates will be invited to Winchester Hall and be informed of all the funding streams for the transportation system. This meeting will be held on the same day as the May CoA meeting which will also be held at Winchester Hall. During the CoA meeting, Judy Welles who is the former Chair of the CoA in Montgomery County will be presenting information. Montgomery County had a needs assessment done in previous years and Judy will discuss their follow up which has been successful.

- VIII. Strategic Plan Workgroup Louise Lynch** – It was suggested that a work group be developed to create a new strategic plan. The old plan ended in 2013. There were some significant accomplishments as a result of that plan. Louise reviewed these accomplishments during this meeting. It would be a good idea to recruit other aging agencies and people in the community who may not want to be on the commission but could support the mission in other ways. Elizabeth, Ginny, and Pat or Carolyn will start a small group to work on this project.

CoA Representative to serve on the Adult Public Disabled Review Board, Louise Lynch – Ann Holiday volunteered to attend these meetings as a liaison from this commission.

2013 CoA Annual Report to the BoCC Louise Lynch – The Annual Report to the BoCC for 2013 primarily addressed the Needs Assessment and related items.

- IX. Nomination Committee Recommendation, Louise Lynch** – Don Cilla submitted a letter of interest. Louise requested a vote of approval for his nomination. All were in favor. Katie has offered to be the Chair for the Nomination Committee.

Carol Krimm was added to the agenda to speak about forming a business task force as proposed by the Needs Assessment. On page 59 of the full document the first strategy is stated, "Form a Business Task Force to inform businesses about the needs of the aging population and the significant stress experienced by many employees who are caring for aging parents. Through public-private partnerships, for example, Partners in Care could seek the support of businesses for its services because Partners' volunteers would relieve some of the stresses on the many caregivers whom businesses employ. Volunteers from local businesses could provide some long-term services and supports, such as minor home and yard

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maintenance, and the business community could be asked to undertake the availability of free or low-cost home modifications.” During a recent BoCC meeting, Carol made a public comment regarding this task force and there were no objections. Carol has contacted Paul Fry from the Chamber of Commerce and Josh Bokee from the Chamber Board and both are ready to assist. The next step would be to set up some framework for this task force. RaeAnn, Ginny, Katie will join Carol to get started on this undertaking.

- X. State CoA, Louise Lynch** - Nothing new to report. The next meeting will be the second Wednesday of April.

Partners in Care, Ernell Graham – There was no meeting this month. Nothing to report.

USM, Ginny Skelley – Currently there is no liaison for this group. Don has offered to become liaison once he has been added to this Commission.

XI. Announcements –

There will be a meet and greet the candidate, Carol Krimm who is running for State office. It will be held at the C.Burr Artz Library on March 17th from 5:30-7:30.

Katie passed around a flyer seeking support for the “Forget-me-not” gala if anyone is interested in sponsoring she and her partner. They will be participating in a dance competition.

Kitty told the commission of a successful event held recently at the Frederick Senior Center. It was called Cabin Fever and was well attended and will be repeated in the future. There will also be a senior carnival in May at the Frederick Center. It will be held on the last Saturday. The one rule will be no children under 40 can attend without a senior.

Pat received an email today and relayed to the group that the budget appeals for the additional staff and contractual funds have been denied by the appeals committee. The recommended budget will be presented to the BoCC on April 3rd to begin at 10:30. Departments who have submitted appeals are encouraged to attend since the appeals will be presented.

- XII. Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

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The meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Ramsburg
Recording Secretary

Upcoming Dates:

April 14 2014, Commission on Aging, 1:00 at Frederick Senior Center, 1440
Taney Ave, Frederick, MD,

April 29, 2014, CoA Executive Committee meeting, 1:00 at Frederick County
Dept of Aging

May meeting will be held at Winchester Hall.